



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**AUSTIN MAN WITH PRIOR CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CONVICTION SENTENCED
FOR NEW FEDERAL CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGE**

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced that Mark Russell White, age 50, of Sequin, was sentenced today in San Antonio by United States District Judge Xavier Rodriguez to 87 months in federal prison as a result of his guilty plea to transportation of child pornography. White will also be required to serve a term of supervised release for 25 years after his release from prison, which will subject him to terms and conditions comparable to parole under the supervision of the court.

In January of this year, Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents obtained a federal search warrant for White's residence in Sequin. Agents seized two computers and various computer related equipment that belonged to White. Forensic analysis of the computers revealed over 22,000 child abuse images and over 700 child abuse videos. The images depicted children ranging in age from young infants and toddlers to early teens engaging in sexually explicit conduct. Some of the images depicted the sexual exploitation of children involving violence, bondage, and sadomasochistic activities.

White admitted to agents that he has a sexual interest in children and has been paying to subscribe to child pornography web sites for approximately three years. This Project Safe Childhood case is being investigated by Immigration and Customs Enforcement and is being prosecuted for the government by Assistant United States Attorney Tracy Braun.

Project Safe Childhood (PSC) aims to combat the proliferation of technology-facilitated sexual exploitation crimes against children. The threat of sexual predators soliciting children for physical sexual contact is well-known and serious; the danger of the production, distribution, and possession of child pornography is equally dramatic and disturbing. The response to these growing problems must be coordinated, comprehensive, and robust. It must aim to investigate and prosecute vigorously, and protect and assist victimized children. At the same time, it must recognize the need for a broad, community-based effort to protect our children and to guarantee to future generations the opportunities of the American dream.

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